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INTERNATIONAL APP. NO.

PCT/US00/26951

INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE

29 September 2000

PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED

1 October 1999

TITLE OF INVENTION

COMPOUNDS AND METHODS

APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/US

Joseph P. MARINO, Jr. Scott K. THOMPSON and Daniel F. VEBER

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Preliminary to the examination of this application, Applicants respectfully request amendment of the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

Kindly add the Abstract enclosed herewith on a separate sheet, at the end.

In the Claims:

Please amend Claim 16 as follows:

16. (Amended)

A compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or

solvate thereof:

wherein,

X is S or O;

 R^1 is optionally substituted C_{2-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} alkenyl, C_{3-6} alkynyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl- C_{0-6} alkyl, optionally substituted Het- C_{1} alkyl or optionally substituted Ar- C_{0-6} alkyl, wherein Ar is an optionally substituted phenyl or naphthyl group;

 R^2 is optionally substituted C_{2-6} alkyl, C_{3-6} alkenyl, C_{3-6} alkynyl, optionally substituted Ar- C_{0-6} alkyl, optionally substituted Het- C_{0-6} alkyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl- C_{0-6} alkyl, provided that when R^2 is optionally substituted Het- C_{0} alkyl, and Het is indole, benzofuran,